

Present:

Chairperson – Mayor McCallum
Councillor Annis
Councillor Elford
Councillor Guerra
Councillor Hundial
Councillor Locke
Councillor Nagra (arrived at 5:20 p.m.)
Councillor Patton
Councillor Pettigrew

Absent:**Staff Present:**

City Manager
City Clerk
General Manager, Corporate Services
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Planning & Development
Deputy City Solicitor

A. DELEGATIONS**1. Parm Kooner, President
Surrey Tourism & Convention Association
File: 6980-01**

The delegation provided a report regarding tourism trends in BC and Discover Surrey marketing tactics for 2018 and highlighted the following information:

- The Surrey Tourism and Convention Association is a Destination Marketing Organization that was established in 2001 to promote the benefits of Surrey to individuals, families, sporting event organizers, meeting and convention organizers and corporate and leisure travellers.
- Discover Surrey was funded through the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) until 2017. The MRDT is a legislated tax program that charges customers 2-3% on top of room rates and provincial sales tax and is currently collected in 56 communities. MRDT funding is used to grow BC tourism revenues, visitation, jobs and marketing initiatives.
- Discover Surrey will be submitting an application to implement a 3% MRDT in Surrey to enhance destination marketing, sport tourism, group travel trade, meeting and convention sales efforts and developing new and enhanced festivals and events.

Councillor Nagra entered the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

**2. Philip Aguirre, Executive Director
Newton Business Improvement Association
File: 0250-01**

The delegation provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding a project in Newton and reported the following information:

- Small businesses provide positive economic impact in the community and contribute to local culture. Local businesses often have a reduced carbon

footprint, make more charitable donations and reinvest their profits into the local community compared to large national chain businesses.

- The Newton Business Improvement Association (BIA) is seeking to expand its office to include an entrepreneurial hub that would house and support small business entrepreneurs. The hub is intended to remove entrance barriers often faced by small business owners.
- To support the launch of the entrepreneurial hub, the Newton BIA will be hosting NewtFest on July 27, providing local entrepreneurs an opportunity to bring forward their business ideas, receive additional information regarding the Hub and sell products.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Guerra

Seconded by Councillor Patton

That the Council-in-Committee meeting be

adjourned.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:40 p.m.



Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk



Mayor Doug McCallum, Chairperson